

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ACDA-05 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4974

INFO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USMISSION NATO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET MENTION OF SUMMIT PROSPECTS

1. IN A BROAD SURVEY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, PRAVDA'S WEEKLY REVIEW (SEPTEMBER 28) EMPHASIZES IMPROVEMENTS RESULTING FROM THE "TURN" IN SOVIET-U.S. RELATIONS WHICH OCCURRED "IN THE FIRST PLACE AS A RESULT OF THE SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMIT MEETINGS." IT GOES ON TO PRAISE THE EXAMPLE OF APOLLO-SOYUZ, TO GIVE HONORABLE MENTION TO FORWARD MOMENTUM FROM HILSINKI, AND TO CALL FOR FURTHER STEPS ON DISARMAMENT, INCLUDING A NEW SALT AGREEMENT.

2. THE WEEKLY JOURNAL ZA RUBEZHOM (NO. 40, SIGNED TO PRESS SEPT. 25) COMMENTS FAVORABLY ON A NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON GROMYKO'S MEETINGS WITH THE SECRETARY AND THE PRESIDENT. THE NYT ITEM, AS REPLAYED, QUOTES THE SECRETARY AS SAYING THAT THE
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TALKS WERE USEFUL IN MOVING TOWARD A SALT AGREEMENT.
IT AFFIRMS THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE

CONCLUDED BEFORE THE SECRETARY MEETS WITH BREZHNEV
IN MOSOW, BUT CITED "AMERICAN OFFICIALS" TO THE
EFFECT THAT THE NEW AGREEMENT WAS "NEARLY COMPLETED."

3. AT A PUBLIC LECTURE ON SEPT. 26, TWO QUESTIONERS
ASKED WHY BREZHNEV'S TRIP WAS BEING DELAYED. THE
SPEAKER SAID HE WAS NOT AWARE THAT IT HAD BEEN, THAT
ADEQUATE PREPARATIONS WERE NECESSARY BY BOTH SIDES, AND
THAT IMPORTANT ISSUES SUCH AS SALT NEEDED TO BE
RESOLVED. HE OFFERED AS HIS OWN OPINION THAT THE
SUMMIT MIGHT TAKE PLACE IN LATE NOVEMBER.
MATLOCK

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